

REMARKS

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over WU (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0048424) in view of FRENETTE (U.S. Pat. No. 5,770,490), with evidence provided by WOLF ("Silicon Processing for the VLSI Era"). The Office Action allows claims 7-20.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowance of claims 7-20.

Without acquiescing in the Examiner's rejection, claims 1-6 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and timely allowance of this application.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRITY SNYDER, L.L.P.

By: /Ji-Yong D. Chung/
Ji-Yong D. Chung
Registration No. 54,805

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11350 Random Hills Road
Suite 600
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
(571) 432-0800

Customer Number: 45114